From the office of Councilmember Donell Peterman

News Release

July 30, 2002

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Statement by Councilmember Donell Peterman on the InterCounty Connector

While it has been my personal and vocal view over the past several years to raise the banner in support of the inter-county connector, I'm charged with a unique task as the recently appointed council person representing district five. That is the task of disguising the difference between a personal view and the view of those whom I've been appointed to serve.

It is quite obvious after reviewing the voting record of my predecessor that the ICC has not been supported by this seat.

It is as well obvious that while this has been the position in the past, there have been many changes in demographics and business development of our district which has quite naturally brought about new needs.

We cannot escape the fact that we are in desperate need of traffic alleviation through the metropolitan area. After careful review and countless consultation with the many experts of what lies ahead for our county as it relates to growth, I think that even the most ardent opponent of the ICC has come to terms with the fact that if we don't do something quick – fast – and in a hurry, the attraction that so many companies and individuals have for our wonderful county will only suffer.

Even so, today, as the councilperson representing district five, I'm unable to support the study.

However, I do want to set the record clear:

(more...)

It is my personal belief that we not only need the study, but we need to begin to build an environmentally safe ICC. And it can be done! For we live in a county whereby men and women constantly defy the impossible.

I take this opportunity to make this statement before my vote because I want no one to be surprised to hear that I support persons that support the ICC, and I myself will at a later date join in with those who understand that the need to get husbands, wives, mothers and fathers out of their cars and home to their families is the greatest need that faces our county.